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UB Campus Opened to Recruiting

✓ The Faculty Senate of the University of Buffalo made a logical decision when it voted to open the campus to recruiters from the Dow Chemical Co. and the Central Intelligence Agency as well as those from all other legal groups.

For good or ill, colleges and universities in the United States have grown to unprecedented size in large part because a college degree enhances the earning potential of the student. The quest for an education, the thirst for knowledge for its own sake and for the intellectual enrichment it can lead to remains a strong motivating factor but we would venture to guess that thousands of students at UB as at other institutions are interested at least as much in the material benefits as in the intellectual joys that accrue from a college education.

That being the case, career recruitment has an important place in a university. To shut it off because a minority of the students and faculty does not approve of the use to which products of one company are put would be a disservice. It would, in fact, deprive many students of what they consider to be an essential part of their university experience—the opportunity to talk with representatives of a wide variety of enterprises before graduation.

And we don't see how the university

sity administration could deny access to the campus to Dow without taking similar action against all other companies, not unless it could demonstrate that the manufacture of napalm—the Dow product which is the principal source of dislike—is illegal.

We would not deny for a moment that the use of napalm bombs is one of the horrors of war but so is the use of all bombs and weapons for war itself is horror and the Vietnam conflict particularly so because it seems so pointless, so unnecessary.

But as long as munitions makers have a legal place in the American economy they have a right to participate with all other companies in campus recruitment. And the same goes for the CIA. Whether one holds that agency in high or low regard, it is a part of the government and has as much right as the Peace Corps or the Foreign Service or the Office of Economic Opportunity to recruit from the campuses. ✓

The Students for a Democratic Society, a minority group on the UB campus, has vowed it will continue to interfere with recruiting at the university, even to the point of "possibly asserting our right to remove them (the recruiters) from the university." If they carry on their activities within the law, they have, of course, a perfect right to protest. If they break the law, they should be treated as other lawbreakers.

And we don't see how the university